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August 7, 2020

Thank you for subscribing to my weekly newsletter. Below you will find important federal, state and local updates from the last week curated for you in one place.

I would like to highlight several specific items. First, I would like to introduce our newest staff member, Ryan Marquess, who is joining us as the Clerk for the House Public Education Committee. You can read more about him below. Second, the Humble ISD Board of Trustees met on Monday to approve the dates to return to campus. And lastly, the State will be opening a new COVID-19 testing site at the Kingwood Community Center starting Monday, August 10th. Read more about all of these items, and more, below.

Should you have any questions about the information below, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please utilize email communication with our office during this time, via the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter.

Sincerely,



State Updates

DSHS: COVID-19 Case Dashboard

Texas Case Counts

COVID-19

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019

Sales Tax Holiday/Weekend - Aug. 7 - 9, 2020



Sales Tax Holiday/**Tax-Free Weekend**

August 7th - 9th, 2020

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Comptroller encourages all taxpayers to continue practicing social distancing and support Texas businesses while saving money on tax-free purchases of most clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks (sold for less than \$100) during the annual Tax-Free weekend. Qualifying items can be purchased tax free from a Texas store or from an online or catalog seller doing business in Texas. In most cases, you do not need to give the seller an exemption certificate to buy qualifying items tax free. This year's sales tax holiday begins Friday, Aug. 7, and goes through midnight Sunday, Aug. 9. The sales tax exemption applies only to qualifying items you buy during the sales tax holiday. Items you buy before or after the sales tax holiday do not qualify for exemption, and there is no tax refund available.

Governor Abbott Provides Update On PPE Distribution To Texas Schools

Governor Greg Abbott today announced that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has established four temporary COVID-19 surge testing sites in Harris County. Two testing sites in Houston and Pasadena began operations yesterday, and two testing sites in Houston and **Kingwood will begin operations on Monday, August 10th**. Each location will be able to process 1,250 tests per day, or a total of 60,000 tests across the four sites. These testing sites have been established through a partnership with HHS Assistant Secretary for Health ADM Brett P. Giroir, MD, the State of Texas, Harris County, and the City of Houston.

"As we address surges in COVID-19 cases across the state, increasing testing is essential to detecting and mitigating the spread of this virus," said Governor Abbott. "I thank Secretary Azar, Admiral Giroir, and all of our partners at HHS for providing our communities with the additional resources they need to combat COVID-19. The Trump Administration is doubling-down on support to areas hard hit by COVID-19. Standing up surge testing sites is one of many tools the Trump Administration is utilizing to assist local leadership to reduce community spread," said ADM Brett P. Giroir, MD. "Data including positive rates and demographic data will inform how to shift state and local resources to reduce the occurrence of COVID-19."

For hours of operation and registration details, visit www.doineedacovid19test.com. Registration will be available on-site.

Testing locations currently open:

Ken Pridgeon Stadium
11355 Falcon Road
Houston, TX 77065

San Jacinto College
8060 Spencer Hwy

Testing locations opening August 10th:

Darrell Tully Stadium
1050 Dairy Ashford
Houston, TX 77079

Kingwood Community Center
4102 Rustic Woods Drive
Kingwood, TX 77345

Governor Abbott Provides Update On PPE Distribution To Texas Schools



Governor Abbott Provides Update On PPE Distribution To...

Governor Greg Abbott today visited the Texas Division of Emergency Management's (TDEM) Warehouse in San Antonio where he provided an update on the state's distribution of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to Texas school districts for the...

[Read more](https://gov.texas.gov)
gov.texas.gov

TxDOT: New Augmented Reality Game Urges Drivers to Never Drive Distracted

Dangers in the Car: TxDOT's New Augmented Reality Game...

In an effort to reach drivers more creatively about the dangers of distracted driving, TxDOT has launched a new web-based augmented reality (AR) game that reinforces the importance of paying attention behind the wheel and reminds drivers to keep...

[Read more](#)
www.txdot.gov

TABC Issues Guidance for Businesses to Reopen

Message From the TABC Chairman and Executive Director

TABC released new guidance that will enable 51% businesses to safely open their doors and get Texans to back to work. As business owners observe all of the necessary health and safety requirements in order to return to work...

[Read more](#)
www.tabc.texas.gov

Texas Workforce Commission: Skills Enhancement Texas



Governor Abbott, Houston Astros, TDEM Announce COVID-19 Testing Site At Minute Maid Park



Office of the Texas Governor | Greg Abbott

Governor Abbott, Houston Astros, TDEM Announce COVID-19...

Governor Greg Abbott today announced that the Houston Astros and the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) have teamed up to open a free COVID-19 testing site at Minute Maid Park in Houston. The testing site will be able to process 2,000...

[Read more](#)
gov.texas.gov

Ryan Marquess: Public Education Committee Clerk



Introducing the newest member of Team Huberty: Ryan Marquess. Ryan has a strong record of service at the Capitol, having previously served as the Clerk for the same committee, as well as a Chief of Staff for a former State Representative. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience and will serve out the remainder of the interim in this role. Here are a few words from Ryan himself:

"My name is Ryan Marquess and I am honored and pleased to be the new Clerk of the Committee on Public Education. I understand the responsibility of being Clerk for such a high-profile and vital committee; I would like to thank Chairman Huberty for entrusting me with this position."

City of Houston & Harris County Updates

Harris County Public Health Dashboard



Harris County
Public Health
Building a Healthy Community

Virtual Community Engagement Meeting for the San Jacinto Regional Watershed

Master Drainage Plan

San Jacinto River Authority SJRA

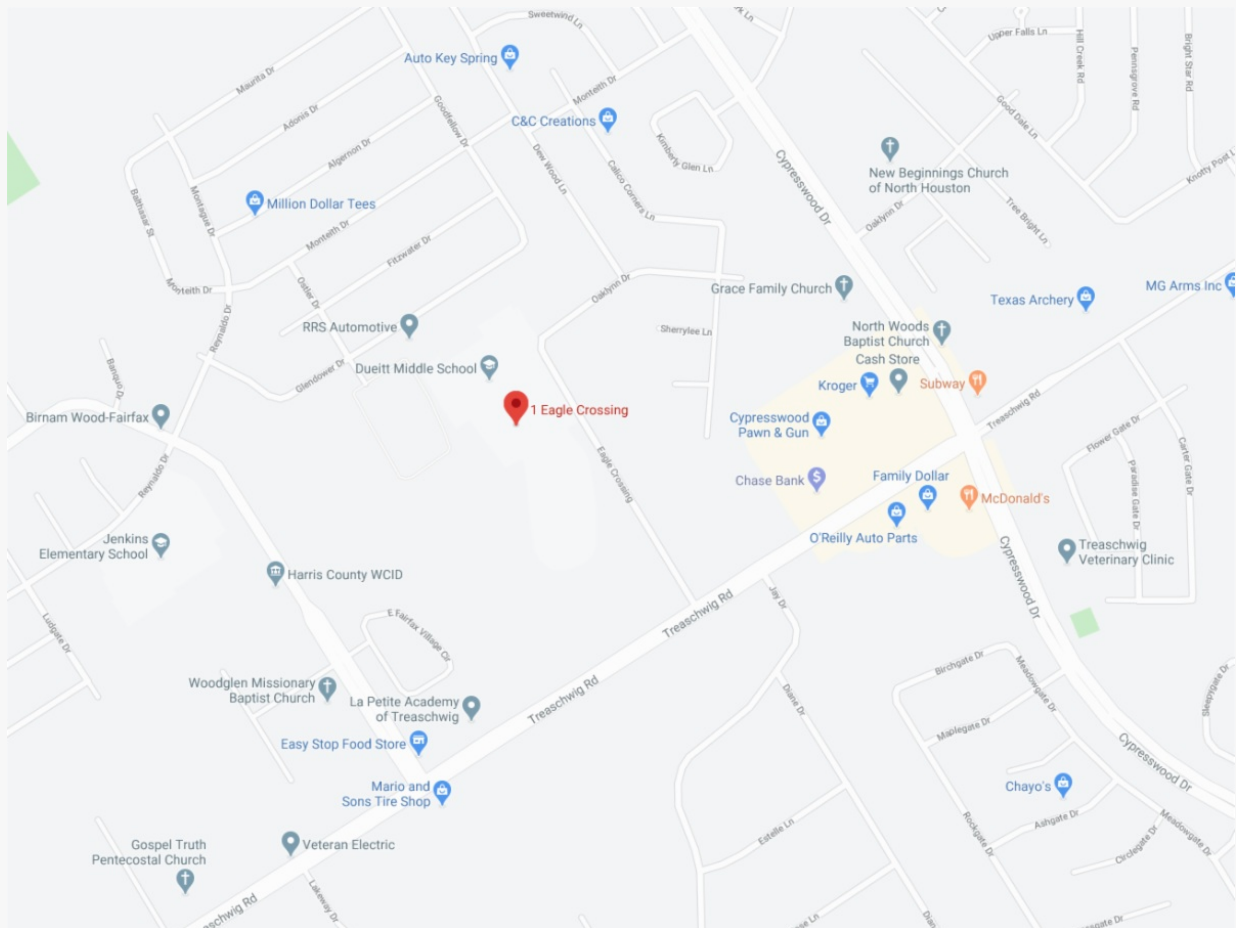
The San Jacinto Regional Watershed Master Drainage Plan will host a ... virtual public meeting this month to provide information about study progress and encourage public participation and input. Please see the image below for more information.

[Read more](#)

www.facebook.com

Register for this Meeting

Harris County Public Health: Precinct 4 Test Site



Site Location: Duett Middle School
1 Eagle Crossing, Spring, TX 77373
Near the intersection of Cypresswood Dr. & Treaschwig Rd.

Test Dates: August 10, 11, 12, 13, 15
No testing on Friday, August 14

Test Times: 7 a.m. – 2 p.m.

View Testing Site Map

HD 127 Updates

Humble ISD Board Approves Back-To-School Dates



Humble ISD trustees vote to begin school online Aug. 11, ...

Trustees and district officials met for their first in-person board meeting in several months on Aug. 3. (Screenshot courtesy Texan Live) After roughly four hours of discussion, the Humble ISD board of trustees voted to slightly delay in-person...

[Read more](#)
communityimpact.com

Aug. 3 Back to School Dates Approved by Board of Trustees Back to School Dates Approved by Board of Trustees Gradual Return to Campuses

Aug. 11: All students begin the year online.

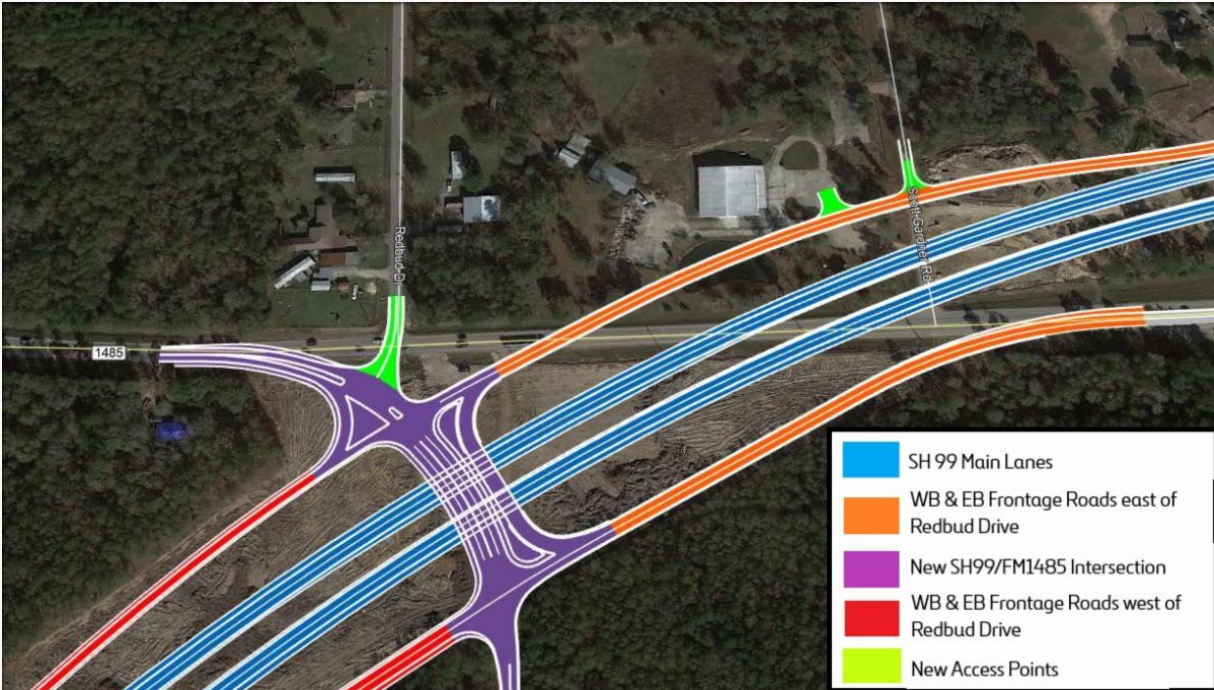
Online learning remains an option for all students based on parent choice throughout 2020-2021.

Aug. 17: In-person classes resume for self-contained special education students whose parents chose on campus.

Aug. 24: In-person classes resume for elementary students whose parents chose on campus. In-person classes resume on A/B schedule for middle and high school students whose parents chose on campus.

Oct. 12: Middle schools move from A/B schedule to regular schedule. High schools continue on A/B schedule.

FM 1485/SH 99 Intersection Traffic Impacts



The design of SH 99 Segment H includes a new intersection at FM 1485 and SH 99 frontage roads in New Caney. Over the next 2 -3 weeks, crews will be working to complete the intersection. While crews complete the configuration, motorists can expect to travel modified routes along FM 1485 between Scott Gardner Road and Redbud Drive. The two critical time periods of construction will be the weekends of August 7 and August 14, as crews will be implementing a flagging operation 24 hours a day. Below you will find the flagging operation schedule and a map of the newly configured area that is scheduled to be completed on Monday, August 17. Please note that this schedule is subject to change based on weather conditions or any unforeseen circumstances.

***Flagging Operation Schedule**

- 8:00PM Friday, August 7 through 6:00AM Monday, August 10
- 8:00PM Friday, August 14 through 6:00 AM Monday, August 17

****During flagging operations, motorists in the area can expect minor delays.***

Capitol & District Office Closures

The District & Capitol offices will remain closed in line with suggested Stay Home, Work Safe guidelines. Please utilize email communication with our office during this time, via the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter or district127.huberty@house.texas.gov.

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